

114TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 2687

To amend the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act to improve plans of safe care for infants affected by illegal substance abuse or withdrawal symptoms, or a Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 15, 2016

Mr. CASEY (for himself, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. BENNET, Mr. HATCH, Mrs. MURRAY, and Ms. COLLINS) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

A BILL

To amend the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act to improve plans of safe care for infants affected by illegal substance abuse or withdrawal symptoms, or a Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Plan of Safe Care Im-
5 provement Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. STATE PLANS.**

2 Section 106(b)(2)(B)(iii) of the Child Abuse Preven-
3 tion and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106a(b)(2)(B)) is
4 amended by striking clause (iii) and inserting the fol-
5 lowing:

6 “(iii) policies and procedures that re-
7 quire—

8 “(I) the development of a plan of
9 safe care for an infant born and iden-
10 tified as being affected by illegal sub-
11 stance abuse or withdrawal symptoms
12 or a Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder;
13 and

14 “(II) the development and imple-
15 mentation by the State of monitoring
16 systems regarding the plan of safe
17 care to—

18 “(aa) ensure the safety and
19 well-being of children;

20 “(bb) address the health, in-
21 cluding mental health, needs of
22 the child and family involved; and

23 “(cc) determine whether
24 local entities are capable of pro-
25 viding referrals to and delivery of

1 appropriate services for the child
2 and family;”.

3 **SEC. 3. DATA REPORTS.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 106(d) of the Child Abuse
5 Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106a(d)) is
6 amended by adding at the end the following:

7 “(18) The number of infants for whom a plan
8 of safe care, as referred to in subsection
9 (b)(2)(B)(iii), was developed.”.

10 (b) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—In section 802(b)(2)
11 of the Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act of 2015 (Pub-
12 lic Law 114–22; 129 Stat 264), the reference to “adding
13 at the end” shall be considered to refer to “inserting after
14 paragraph (16)”.

15 **SEC. 4. MONITORING.**

16 Section 106 of the Child Abuse Prevention and
17 Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106a) is amended by adding
18 at the end the following:

19 “(g) MONITORING.—The Secretary shall conduct
20 monitoring of States to ensure that each State is meeting
21 the requirements of subsection (b)(2)(B)(iii) to improve
22 outcomes among children who are most at risk for child
23 abuse and neglect.”.

1 **SEC. 5. BEST PRACTICES FOR PLANS OF SAFE CARE.**

2 Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment
3 of this Act, the Secretary of Health and Human Services
4 shall issue guidance to States regarding the requirements
5 and best practices for the development and implementa-
6 tion of plans of safe care, as referred to in section
7 106(b)(2)(B)(iii) of the Child Abuse Prevention and
8 Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106a(b)(2)(B)(iii)). In devel-
9 oping the guidance, the Secretary shall seek and take into
10 consideration input from all appropriate offices within the
11 Department of Health and Human Services, including the
12 Administration for Children and Families, the Centers for
13 Medicare & Medicaid Services, the Centers for Disease
14 Control and Prevention, the Substance Abuse and Mental
15 Health Services Administration, and the National Insti-
16 tutes of Health, and from the Department of Education.

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